

NEWS RELEASE

Crop Production**October 10, 2003**

OCTOBER CROP PRODUCTION FORECAST

North Dakota

All sunflower (oil & non-oil) production forecast for 2003 is set at 1.45 billion pounds, down 15 percent when compared to last year, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Based on conditions as of October 1, the average yield for all sunflower is forecast at 1,200 pounds per harvested acre, down from 1,300 pounds last year. It is estimated that 1.21 million acres will be harvested, down 110,000 acres from last year.

Canola production forecast for the season is set at 1.36 billion pounds, down from 1.43 billion pounds in 2002. Average yield is forecast at 1,400 pounds per acre, up 170 pounds compared to last year. Acres for harvest, at 970,000, were down 16 percent from last year.

Soybean production is forecast at a record high 86.8 million bushels, up 10,000 bushels from last year's record high production. Yields are expected to average 28 bushels per acre, down one bushel from the September forecast and down 5 bushels compared to last year. An estimated 3.10 million acres will be harvested, also a record high, if realized.

Corn production is forecast at a record high 125 million bushels, 9 percent above last year. Corn yields are expected to average 100 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from the September forecast and 15 bushels below last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.25 million acres, 26 percent above 2002.

Dry edible bean production is forecast at 8.66 million hundredweight (cwt), 18 percent below last year. Yield is estimated at 1,520 pounds per acre, down from 1,550 pounds in August and 1,540 pounds in 2002. Acreage to be harvested is forecast at 570,000 acres, down 120,000 acres from last year.

United States

Sunflower production is forecast at 2.62 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2002. Farmers expect to harvest 2.27 million acres, up 4 percent from the 2002 acreage. The October yield forecast, at 1,152 pounds, is 10 pounds more than the 2002 yield.

Canola production is estimated at 1.55 billion pounds, down slightly from 2002. Farmers expect to harvest 1.09 million acres, down 15 percent from 2002. The yield forecast, at 1,425 pounds per acre, is 207 pounds above last year.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.47 billion bushels, 10 percent below 2002. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1996. Yields are expected to average 34.0 bushels per acre, down 2.4 bushels from September and down 4.0 bushels from 2002. Area for harvest is forecast at 72.5 million acres, down 88,000 acres from September, but up fractionally from the 2002 acreage.

Corn production is forecast at 10.2 billion bushels, 13 percent above 2002. Yields are expected to average 142.2 bushels per acre, up 3.7 bushels from September and up 12.2 bushels from last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest ever. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 50,000 acres from September but up 4 percent from 2002.

Dry edible bean production is forecast at 23.6 million cwt for 2003, 21 percent below last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.42 million acres, down 18 percent from last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,665 pounds per acre, a decrease of 52 pounds from the August forecast and 71 pounds below last year.

For More Information Contact:

CROP SUMMARY: AREA PLANTED AND HARVESTED
NORTH DAKOTA AND UNITED STATES, 2002 and FORECASTED OCTOBER 1, 2003 ^{1/}

Crop	North Dakota				United States			
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres	
Barley	1,600	2,050	1,240	1,980	5,071	5,299	4,129	4,688
Corn for Grain ^{2/}	1,230	1,450	995	1,250	79,054	79,066	69,313	71,765
Corn for Silage			180				7,490	
Hay, All			3,300	2,950			64,497	64,379
Alfalfa			1,450	1,550			23,135	23,541
All Other			1,850	1,400			41,362	40,838
Oats	670	620	290	360	4,995	4,601	2,093	2,224
Rye	10	18	9	15	1,395	1,368	281	339
Wheat, All	9,080	8,630	7,920	8,500	60,468	61,700	45,917	52,839
Winter	80	130	70	120	41,845	44,945	29,751	36,541
Durum	2,100	2,000	1,950	1,980	2,909	2,915	2,703	2,869
Other Spring	6,900	6,500	5,900	6,400	15,714	13,840	13,463	13,429
Canola	1,300	1,000	1,160	970	1,459	1,121	1,275	1,085
Flaxseed	750	550	680	540	785	583	704	572
Mustard Seed ^{3/}					191.0	96.5	175.0	94.2
Rapeseed ^{3/}					3.4	1.6	3.1	1.5
Safflower ^{3/}					219	213	196	198
Soybeans	2,670	3,150	2,630	3,100	73,923	73,585	72,437	72,538
Sunflower, All	1,370	1,230	1,315	1,205	2,580	2,364	2,180	2,274
Oil	1,150	1,070	1,105	1,050	2,125	2,010	1,815	1,940
Non-oil	220	160	210	155	455	354	365	334
Sugarbeets	265	280	258	278	1,427.3	1,364.7	1,361.1	1,347.7
Dry Edible Beans, All	790.0	600.0	690.0	570.0	1,922.1	1,501.2	1,726.9	1,417.8
Navy	180.0	86.0	151.0		345.3	190.7	305.7	
Pinto	515.0	450.0	460.0		813.3	700.8	725.3	
Black Turtle	60.0	27.0	51.0		196.8	94.0	183.4	
Dark Red Kidney	7.0	6.0	5.1		70.5	62.6	64.0	
Pinks	9.0	10.0	7.8		34.8	34.5	32.8	
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	8.6	5.0	6.2		82.1	52.0	70.9	
Large ^{4/}		4.0				42.5		
Small ^{4/}		1.0				9.5		
Great Northern	5.8	8.0	4.9		93.8	108.1	82.1	
Other	4.6	8.0	4.0		285.5	258.5	262.7	
Dry Edible Peas	155	170	138	160	302.7	356.0	279.7	334.0
Lentils	53	55	47	53	221.0	246.0	209.0	240.0
Fall Potatoes, All	118.0	118.0	102.0	110.0	1,138.8	1,114.4	1,109.4	1,093.4
Irrigated ^{5/ 6/}	36.0		34.5					
Types, Reds ^{6/}	19.0	26.0	14.5					
Whites ^{6/}	47.5	38.9	40.0					
Russets ^{6/}	51.5	53.1	47.5					

1/ Data are latest estimates available. 2/ Area planted for all purposes. 3/ Published at U.S. level only. 4/ Estimates began in 2003. 5/ Included in all potatoes. 6/ Published at state level only.

CROP SUMMARY: YIELD AND PRODUCTION
NORTH DAKOTA AND UNITED STATES, 2002 and FORECASTED OCTOBER 1, 2003 ^{1/}

Crop	Unit	North Dakota					United States				
		Yield ^{2/}			Production		Yield ^{2/}			Production	
		2002	2003		2002	2003	2002	2003		2002	2003
			Sep 1	Oct 1				Sep 1	Oct 1		
		--- 1,000 ---					--- 1,000 ---				
Barley ^{3/}	Bu	46.0		60.0	57,040	118,800	54.9		58.9	226,573	276,087
Corn for Grain	Bu	115.0	104.0	100.0	114,425	125,000	130.0	138.5	142.2	9,007,659	10,207,141
Corn for Silage	Tons	7.0			1,260		14.0			104,979	
Hay, All	Tons	1.19	1.49	1.56	3,920	4,610	2.34	2.49	2.50	150,962	160,706
Alfalfa	Tons	1.30	1.70	1.80	1,885	2,790	3.19	3.31	3.34	73,824	78,523
All Other	Tons	1.10	1.25	1.30	2,035	1,820	1.86	2.01	2.01	77,138	82,183
Oats ^{3/}	Bu	44.0		59.0	12,760	21,240	56.7		65.0	118,628	144,649
Rye ^{3/}	Bu	38.0		50.0	342	750	24.8		27.3	6,955	9,254
Wheat, All ^{3/}	Bu	27.3		37.3	216,610	317,090	35.3		44.2	1,619,001	2,336,526
Winter ^{3/}	Bu	38.0		49.0	2,660	5,880	38.5		46.7	1,145,602	1,707,069
Durum ^{3/}	Bu	25.0		29.5	48,750	58,410	29.4		33.7	79,450	96,637
Other Spring ^{3/}	Bu	28.0		39.5	165,200	252,800	29.3		39.7	393,949	532,820
Canola	Lbs	1,230		1,400	1,426,800	1,358,000	1,218		1,425	1,552,520	1,545,709
Flaxseed	Bu	18.0			12,240		17.9			12,569	
Mustard Seed ^{4/}	Lbs						705			123,450	
Rapeseed ^{4/}	Lbs						1,461			4,530	
Safflower ^{4/}	Lbs						1,520			297,980	
Soybeans ^{5/}	Bu	33.0	29.0	28.0	86,790	86,800	38.0	36.4	34.0	2,749,340	2,468,390
Sunflower, All ^{5/}	Lbs	1,300		1,200	1,710,050	1,446,000	1,142		1,152	2,489,606	2,619,497
Oil ^{5/}	Lbs	1,310			1,447,550		1,140			2,069,780	
Non-oil ^{5/}	Lbs	1,250			262,500		1,150			419,826	
Sugarbeets	Tons	18.6	21.5	21.0	4,799	5,838	20.4	22.8	22.2	27,718	29,882
Dry Edible Beans, All ^{6/ 7/}	Cwt	1,540	1,550	1,520	10,626	8,664	1,736	1,717	1,665	29,974	23,603
Navy ^{7/}	Cwt	1,550			2,340		1,735			5,304	
Pinto ^{7/}	Cwt	1,560			7,184		1,776			12,880	
Black Turtle ^{7/}	Cwt	1,350			689		1,698			3,114	
Dark Red Kidney ^{7/}	Cwt	1,330			68		1,680			1,075	
Pinks ^{7/}	Cwt	1,590			124		1,851			607	
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo) ^{7/}	Cwt	1,470			91		1,182			838	
Large ^{7/ 8/}	Cwt										
Small ^{7/ 8/}	Cwt										
Great Northern ^{7/}	Cwt	1,510			74		1,882			1,545	
Other ^{7/}	Cwt	1,400			56		1,755			4,611	
Dry Edible Peas ^{7/}	Cwt	1,450			2,001		1,517			4,242	
Lentils ^{7/}	Cwt	1,100			517		1,200			2,508	
Fall Potatoes, All	Cwt	230			23,460		373			414,317	
Irrigated ^{9/ 10/}	Cwt	300			10,350						
Types, Reds ^{10/}	Cwt	178			2,580						
Whites ^{10/}	Cwt	181			7,250						
Russets ^{10/}	Cwt	287			13,630						

1/ Data are latest estimates available. 2/ Yield per harvested acre. 3/ Estimates carried forward from September Small Grains 2003 Summary. 4/ Published at U.S. level only. 5/ 2002 data reflects revisions for soybeans and sunflower. 6/ No forecast made September 1, estimates carried forward from August 1. 7/ Yield in pounds. 8/ Estimates began in 2003. 9/ Included in all potatoes. 10/ Published at state level only.

